SD&DS-SP-MM-21
2 June 1972

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION HANDLING COMMITTEE

System Design and Development Subcommittee

Standards Panel

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, SD&DS

SUBJECT   :   Registration of Unclassified Intelligence
                     Data Standards

REFERENCES   :   a. National Bureau of Standards, Federal
                         Information Processing Standards 19
                         (FIPS 19), Guidelines for Registering
                         Data Codes, 1 February 1972

                     b. SD&DS-SP-M-16, 11 May 1972, Confidential

    1. Reference a. set forth the responsibility of Federal
departments and establishments to register program and agency
codes (including those under development) with the National
Bureau of Standards, as originally ordered by the Office of
Management and Budget Circular A-86, Subject: Standardization
of Data Elements and Codes.

    2. Under DCID 1/15 responsibility for the development of
codes as program standards for the intelligence community
rests with IHC. Consequently, the Standards Panel at its
sixteenth meeting (reference b.) agreed that the IHC Support
Staff shall register all applicable intelligence program
standards with the National Bureau of Standards, after obtain-
ing descriptions of the standards and other such support from
the Assigned Responsible Agency (ARA), provided the standard
itself is unclassified and the necessary backup and explanatory
reference material is also unclassified (e.g., the Content
Control Code).

3. The description of the first intelligence program standard to be reported to NBS under FIPS 19, the Content Control Code, is attached for your approval and forwarding.

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Chairman

Distribution List

SP Members
SD&DS Members
IHC Members
Chairman, R&DS
COINS Project Manager

SF-366 OCTOBER, 1971 PRESCR. BY NBS FIPS PUB 19	DATA CODES REGISTRATION (See Instructions on Reverse)	

1. Type of Submission

[X] Initial

[ ] Deletion [ ] Revised form

2. Complete only for deletion or revised form submission

Date previously submitted	Registration No.

3. Status

[ ] Completed [X] Under development

4. Kind of Data Code ("X" one)

[ ] Federal General Standard   [X] Federal Program Standard (Specify area) Intelligence [ ] Agency

[ ] American National Standard [ ] ISO Recommendation [ ] Current practice [ ] Subagency

5. Title

Content Control Code

6. Description

Attached

7. Characteristics of Data Code

a. Representation

[ ] Name [ ] Abbreviation [X] Code [ ] Numeric value

b. Length

[X] Fixed * $3-4$) Number of characters *

[X] Variable * ( ) Minimum ( ) Maximum

c. Type of character(s)

[ ] Numeric [X] Alphabetic [ ] Alphanumeric [ ] Special

d. Significance

[X] Significant [ ] Nonsignificant

e. Check character(s) used

[ ] Yes [ ] No

f. Other characteristics

*See description

8. Availability (Include full title, number, and date of document)

Content Control Code, United States Intelligence Board, Committee
on Documentation (replaced by Intelligence Information
Handling Committee), January 1967

9. Development/Maintenance Office (Name, address, phone number)

Intelligence Information Handling
Committee/Support Staff,
United States Intelligence
Board
Room 4E24, CIA Headquarters
Washington, D. C. 20505

10. Submitting Office (Name, address, phone number)

Intelligence Information
Handling Committee/Support
Staff
United States Intelligence
Board
Room 4E24, CIA Headquarters
Washington, D. C. 20505

11. Date Prepared

12 April 1972

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Attachment to
Form SF-366

6. Description

The Content Control Code, first issued by the United
States Intelligence Board in 1967, was designed primarily
to give authors a concise, easily remembered code which
would indicate the content of their messages, reports, and
documents for disseminators and readers. The code has two
schedules--geopolitical and subject. The geopolitical code
is a three character alphabetic code, which consists of a
one character prefix indicating the region of the world
(or universe) and a two character code which indicates the
country, water body, or celestial body. The last two
characters are compatible with and in most cases identical
to Federal Information Processing Standard #10 (Countries,
Dependencies, and Areas of Special Sovereignty), but are
not limited to countries. The subject schedule contains
62 four character alpha codes indicating the subject content
of the document plus modifiers and identifiers which further
specify the information contained therein. The use of one
geographic (3) and one subject (4) code would fix the length
at a total of seven characters. However, the number of codes
used and the number of modifiers is variable, since it depends
on the number of countries and subjects mentioned in the
document. The geopolitical schedule is updated when necessary;
the subject schedule is presently being modified and tested.